

Lewis & Clark County Weed District Minutes
Wednesday Dec. 7, 2016
1:00 PM
Weed Conference Room

Present:

Steve Johns – Chairman	Audra Zacherl – Public Works
Bob Bushnell – Member	Judith Anne Vince – THLPPNWP/MWCA
Joel Redding – Member	Greta Dige – city of Helena
Orville Johnson – Member	Larry Hoffman - Coordinator

Call to Order: - Steve Johns – Chairman - Called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM with 4 board members , 2exofficial persons and 2 guest/public present.

Introductions: - Steve Johns – Chairman – None needed.

Minutes: Bob Bushnell made a motion to approve the November minutes as sent. Seconded by Joel Redding and approved.

Budget Report/Claims: - Bob Bushnell made a motion to approve the budget report and pay all outstanding bills. Seconded of the motion by Orville Johnson and approved.

Public Comment: -

- Judith Anne Vincent reported on THLKPPNWP Grant and MWCA. Project summary in file for board review.

Correspondence: .

- Note of resignation by Chuck Butler
- MWCA Updates – Becky Kington
- Noxious Weed Listing Group Report
- Dyer’s Woad Cooperative Project and Working dog Report
- Weed Times
- Montana Invasive Species Bulletin
- Lewis and Clark Conservation District Minutes
- Hybrid Toadflax

REPORTS:

BoCC – Susan Good Geise – Not present.

Public Works – Audra Zacherl – Snow confirmed by Audra!... Audra Zacherl announced that Maria P. replacement will be Jade Hucans and will start next week..

City of Helena – Greta Dige – Applied for extension of 2015 Weed Trust Fund grant. Letters have been received on support of the project by residents. Trakit is still being worked on. Greta Dige has been in ADA training courses and feels that there is a need to put together information for the Trakit program.

Board Reports:

Augusta Area: Mike Cobb – Unable to attend today – sorry! He is on the Trump Team – Making America Great! Supports the Cheat Grass Seminar and the use of MDT special funds for education.

Canyon Creek Area: Steve Johns – Not much in the weed field – snow on the ground.

Central Area: Joe Redding – Cold and quiet!

East Area: Charles Butler – Quote: After all considerations I have decided not to apply for another term. All though for the last 3 years I have enjoyed being a part of this board and meeting all the others that help make decisions on something that is very important to me. With the farm ranch economy the way that it is and more pressures to sell more when it’s really hard, I have not been able to find the time to attend the meetings. I will miss everyone that I have meet throughout the years. Thank You.

Lincoln Area: Bob Bushnell – Weeds covered by 12 plus inches of snow this month.

Helena/South Area: Orville Johnson – Snow covers all!

West Area: Interest has been shown.

Wolf Creek Area: Rob McDonough – Not present.

Coordinator Report: Larry Hoffman – Nilan Irrigation Project, Forest Service – Rimini Project, 2017 agreement projects, BLM 2017 projects, Recycling container pickup 1111 lbs, Conservation

District – cost/share project for Dearborn community, Cheat Grass Seminar and Right To Farm with CD and NRCS, Lincoln community meeting and EA development, Biological purchases developed, Noxious Weed Management for Farm Services, board member recruitment, and finishing up grant and agency reports.

Action Items:

One (1) ton Spray Truck – Bob Bushnell made a motion to put the spray truck on surplus and to auction it. Seconded by Joel Redding and approved. Larry Hoffman will contact Amy Reeves on the request.

County Grant Approval – The county commission approved the grant request for \$7,500. Grant request was for computer and program needs for the new TRAKIT program, remote controls for spray reels and insects.

New Business:

WTF Grant Support – Letter of support sent to PSW and city of Helena for WTF grants.

MDT Special Grant – (\$1785.71) Suggestions: \$600 for Environment Assessment for Lincoln Area Vegetation Management Project, Weed Id Books , and Insect purchases (\$1100 +). Bob Bushnell made a motion to work with Conservation District and employ a person to complete the Environmental Assessment for the Lincoln community group Weed Trust Fund Application (\$600), purchase 100 Id. Books @ 4.50 each, Id. Books @ 2.50 each for education and \$700 for insects – Leafy spurge and St. Johnswort. Seconded by Orville Johnson and approved.

Cheatgrass Seminar Sponsor – The seminar is scheduled for February 2nd at the Valley Community Center. Speakers: Jane Mangold MSU, Susan Tillman NRCS forage specialist, Cecil Tharp MSU Water and Herbicides, and Cheryl Swartzkopf Wyoming for soil Inoculants. Four credits for private and commercial applicators. Motion to support the travel etc. for speakers made by Bob Bushnell and seconded by Orville Johnson and approved. Motion to pay fees for members wishing to participation made by Bob Bushnell. Seconded by Orville Johnson and approved.

- **Legislation** – Larry Hoffman will send copies to board members to review. Discussion will take place at the next regular meeting.

- Vehicle Fees and County Weed Act changes.

MWCA Ballots - Board members need to get their votes into MWCA for elections.

CIP 2018 Budget - Bob Bushnell made a motion not to submit capital improvement needs for the 2018 budget. Seconded by Joel Redding and approved.

Old Business:

Rimini Project with Forest Service – Weed District is developing a 3 to 5 year management plan for the Forest Service once the completion of the Rimini Rd.

Bio Purchase (FS/BLM/WD) – Weed District will be working with the agencies to purchase about \$10,000 worth of insects.

Farm and Ranch Resolution Update – Report on progress by Larry Hoffman. Board suggested that we continue to work with agencies, irrigation districts, farm and ranchers and realtors to come up with a workable plan for the Planning Department.

Other Business:

Annual Conference – Attending interest by Steve Johns, Orrville Johnson and coordinator.

- **Commission Roast** – Mike Murray – Tickets – December 29th. Steve Johns(2), Bob Bushnell(2) and Joe Redding (2).

Grant Report/Agreement Process – Susan Suter will have all reports, invoices etc. submitted by the end of the week.

Calendar/Cards – Board members picked up cards/calendars for distribution.

Lewis and Clark Conservation District Report – Bob Bushnell – New supervisor from Lincoln area – Jeanette Nordahl.

Announcements:

Next Board Meeting – January 4, 2017 – 1-3 pm in the Weed Conference Room.

Lewis and Clark Conservation District Meeting: December 8, at 1:00 pm – Conference Room
Helena

Adjournment: Adjourned 2:10 P.M.